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The story of the great war. By Roland G. Usher, Ph.D. (New York: Macmillan company, 1919. 350 p. \$2.50)

The need for a brief account of the great war and the international rivalries that preceded it and brought it on is a very real one; and the announcement that Mr. Usher was preparing such an account naturally aroused an immediate interest. The reviewer regrets to say, however, that he finds the published volume to be somewhat disappointing. The work contains a number of good, readable chapters, a few suggestive and helpful illustrations, and several useful maps; but it also contains a great deal that the reviewer had hoped would not be included in a work of this sort. It was to be expected that what was written under the stress of war should partake largely of the character of propaganda, but the war is now a matter of history and we have a right to expect that historical students will try to assume a more judicial attitude toward the events of the past few years. The chief objection to Mr. Usher's work is that its viewpoint is that of 1917; it is another effort to show that Germany was fatally wrong and the allies right on all points throughout the course of the war. Mr. Usher is doubtless right in attributing the heavier guilt to the German imperialists, but certain documents recently published (to which the author may not have had access) seem to show that the Austrian government was involved more deeply than we believed during the war. The reviewer also doubts the advisability of publishing the "Hymn of hate" in a small volume like this, or of including illustrations that were originally intended to produce hatred, an emotion that is not of the nobler sort and should not be cherished too long. Nor does it seem wholly proper to give valuable space to such tales as the stories of the appearance of Joan of Arc, or the ghostly warriors of Agincourt, or the redoubtable St. George on his white horse. These tales may be properly discussed by the folklorist or the psychologist, but they scarcely belong in the field of history.

L. M. L.

Theodore Roosevelt. An intimate biography. By William Roscoe Thayer. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin company, 1919. 474 p. \$5.00)

The life of Theodore Roosevelt. By William Draper Lewis, Ph.D. (Philadelphia and Chicago: John C. Winston company, 1919. 480 p. \$2.25)

Theodore Roosevelt's letters to his children. Edited by Joseph Bucklin Bishop. (New York: Charles Scribner's sons, 1919. 240 p. \$3.00 net)

The volumes under review serve to emphasize the thought expressed